

REMARKS

Claims 8-14 are pending in the application. Claims 8 and 9 have been amended. No new matter is presented. Claims 1-7 have been canceled. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lam (U.S. Patent No. 5,607,444) in view of Kim (U.S. Patent No. 6,270,524). Applicant respectfully traverses. Applicant respectfully disagrees that the Lam reference shows the stent being mounted on a catheter (Fig. 7) having a long balloon and a short balloon as noted by the Examiner. In Fig. 7, the portion of the balloon on the right side of the figure has an irregular shape and it is urged that it cannot be considered to be a short balloon relative to the long balloon on the left side of Fig. 7. However, to remove all doubt that the present invention is patentably distinguishable, independent claim 8 of the present invention has been amended so that the orientation of the long balloon relative to the short balloon are recited as being "side by side." Thus, neither Lam nor Kim disclose a long balloon and a short balloon positioned side by side for deploying a stent at a bifurcation. Further, there is no suggestion or teaching in either Lam or Kim that two balloons, one being long and the other being short, positioned side by side, would be capable of delivering any of the stents disclosed in the prior art references. Accordingly, it is urged that claims 8-14, as amended, are patentably distinguishable over the cited art and that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Claims 8-14 remain pending in the application. If a telephone conference with the would in any way facilitate prosecution of the application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (310) 824-5555.

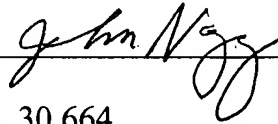
Respectfully submitted,

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